

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 SS-15 SP-02 A-01 MMO-01 ABF-01

/032 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:AR DAY:TH

APPROVED BY P - MR. HABIB

NEA:MDRAPER

NEA/EX:JSCONNOLLY, JR.

NEA:ADUBS, ACTING

PER/FCA:KACKERMAN

M:LSEAGLEBURGER

S/S-MR BORG

----- 124495

O 252228Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211646

FOR CHARGE HUNT FROM EAGLEBURGER, LAISE AND HABIB

E.O11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, APER, LE

SUBJECT: STAFFING FOR BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 6981

1. ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL, WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO INCREASE THE STAFF BY THREE PEOPLE JUST AFTER HAVING REDUCED IT TO A LEVEL THAT WE THOUGHT WOULD SUFFICE FOR A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF RISK AND OF LIMITED ACTIVITY. YOU MAKE A GOOD CASE FOR THE INCREASES, HOWEVER, AND IF YOU FEEL THAT THE PERIOD SINCE THE LAST EVACUATION HAS CLEARLY SHOWN THAT WE TOOK TOO DEEP A BITE, WE ARE PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH YOUR PROPOSALS. WE HAD ALWAYS ASSUMED THERE WOULD BE NEED OF ROTATION THROUGH TDY ASSIGNMENTS, AND WE REMAIN PREPARED

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TO AUTHORIZE THAT AS YOU SEE FIT. WE ALSO AGREE WITH YOU

AS REGARDS A FLEXIBLE TOUR OF DUTY POLICY.

2. TO REDUCE TRAVEL TO AND FROM BEIRUT TO A MINIMUM, BELIEVE WE SHOULD INCLUDE SOME OF ANY PERSONNEL TO BE ADDED WITH BAQUET WHEN HE GOES INTO BEIRUT FROM DAMASCUS AT END OF MONTH, SECURITY SITUATION PERMITTING. IF YOU BELIEVE IT PRACTICABLE, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO COME OUT AT THE SAME TIME.

3. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU HERE SOON. YOU HAVE DONE A SUPERB AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL JOB, WHICH WAS NO SURPRISE TO ANY OF US. KISSINGER

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